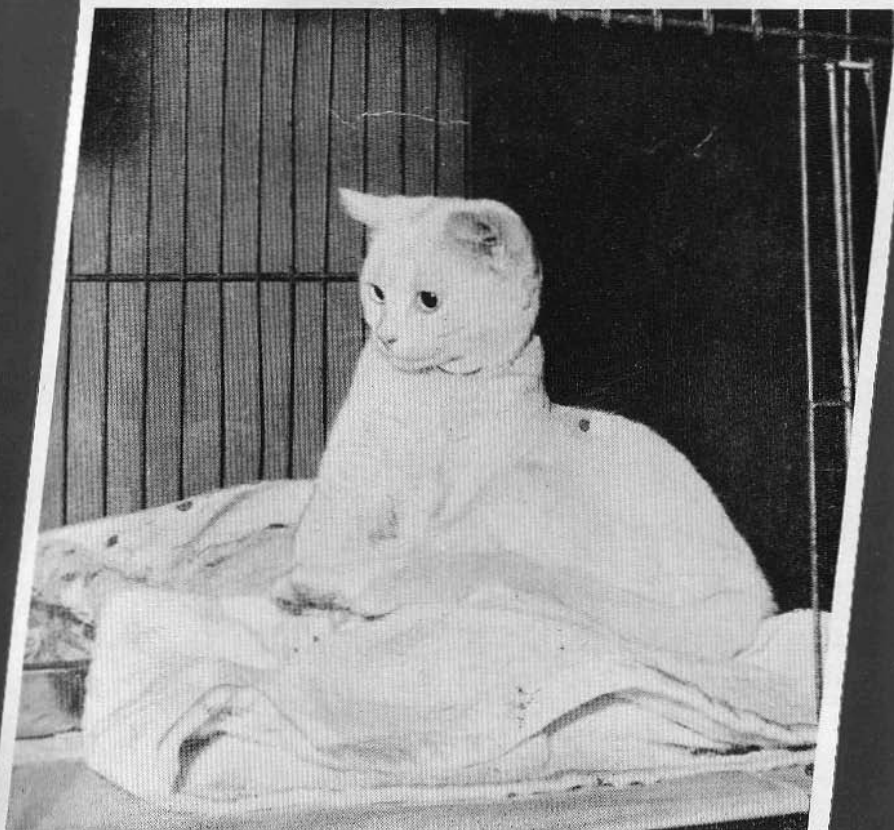


# Our Cats

AUTHORITATIVE  
INSTRUCTIVE



ENTERTAINING  
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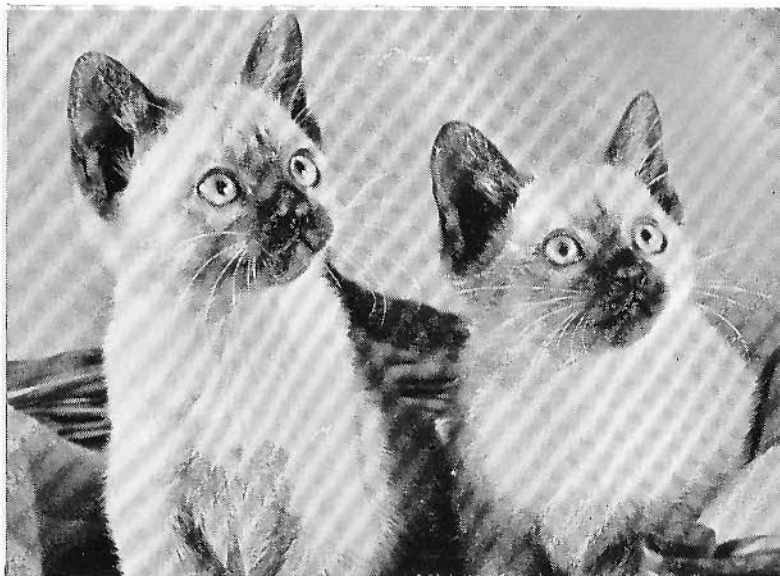


*CH. WATERMILL LADYWITE, Mrs. Helen Martin's lovely Blue-eyed White Shorthair, bred by Miss Ann Codrington. Hugh Smith took the picture at the Southern Counties C.C. Show.*

1/6

MARCH 1959

Are we protected against Infectious Enteritis?



In the close conditions of the Show every cat is exposed to infections. One of the most dangerous is Feline Enteritis—a particularly infectious virus disease which can spread quickly through a cattery or from cat to cat in a locality. Its onset is sudden and usually fatal. The mortality rate is highest among Siamese, although all breeds are susceptible. It may be too late after the Show . . . consult your veterinary surgeon now about 'Fiovax', and have your kittens vaccinated without delay.

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BRAND

**FELINE INFECTIOUS ENTERITIS VACCINE**



A BURROUGHS WELLCOME VETERINARY PRODUCT

# Our Cats

**AUTHORITATIVE • INSTRUCTIVE • ENTERTAINING**

Published every month with the best possible features and illustrations and circulated to Cat Lovers of every kind throughout the world. Our editorial purpose is :

- (1) to spread a wider understanding and a better appreciation of all cats, their care and management
- (2) to encourage in every way the breeding, handling and showing of pedigree cats ;
- (3) to work for the suppression of every form of cruelty to cats ;
- (4) to act as a link of friendship and common interest between cat lovers in different parts of the world.

VOL. 11 No. 3  
MARCH 1959

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## THE MAGAZINE THAT SPANS THE WORLD OF CAT LOVERS

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### Editorial

It was in our January issue that I referred to the possibilities which lie ahead for the future development of our Magazine. I mentioned that something "bigger and better" might become a reality if we could increase substantially the number of our subscribers. There were, I pointed out, thousands of genuine cat lovers dotted about all over the world who were unaware of our existence and I appealed to readers for their help towards locating some of these good people.

The response has been really excellent and I would like to thank most sincerely everyone who has helped in this connection. It has not been possible to acknowledge all the letters and postcards individually. To the senders I give my assurance that specimen copies have gone out in accordance with their suggestions.

Please keep up the good work and do please ensure that the names and addresses supplied are genuine and really worthwhile prospects as future subscribers.

EDITOR.



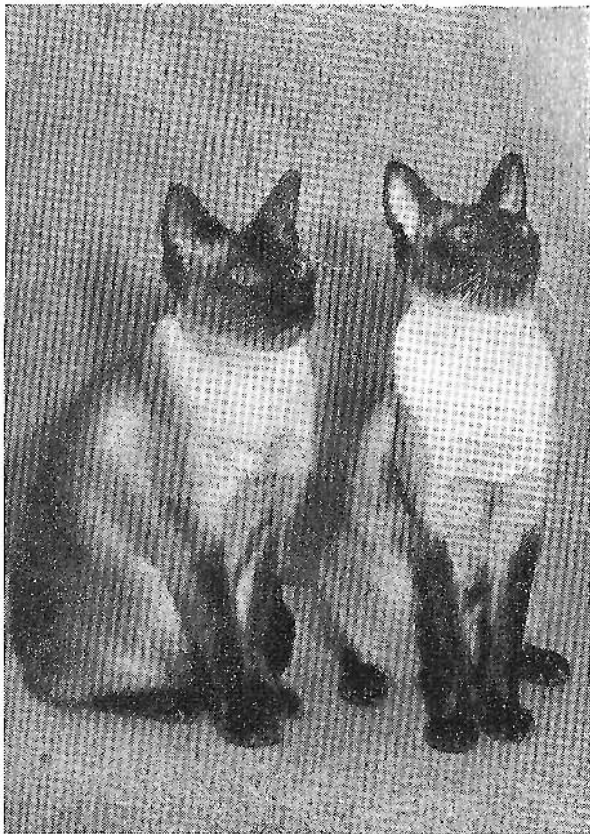
**GENERAL INFORMATION :** The address for all communications relating to editorial and advertisements in OUR CATS is 4 CARLTON MANSIONS, CLAPHAM ROAD, LONDON, S.W.9. (Macaulay 1462).

OUR CATS is published monthly and closing date is the 25th day of the month preceding the month of publication. MSS. and photographs submitted will only be returned if accompanied by fully stamped and addressed envelopes. Photographs should preferably be of the glossy type with sharp details. A stamped addressed envelope should also be enclosed where a reply is required to some general inquiry.

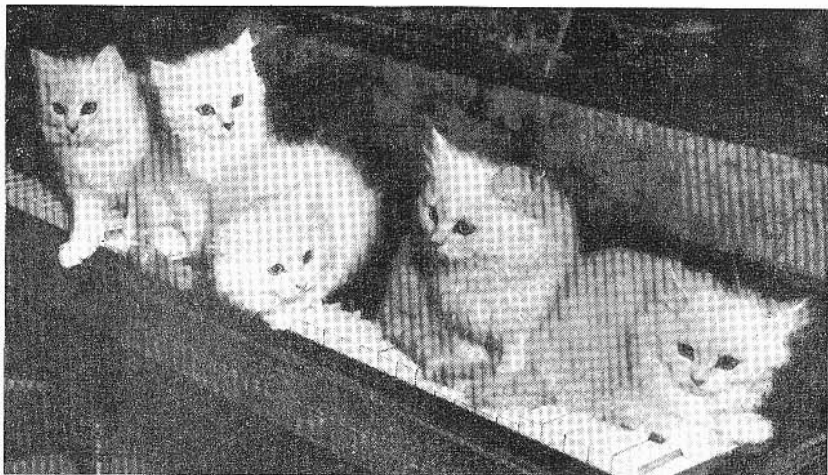
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**A pair of Siamese neuters of exceptional quality. They are Mrs. Montgomery's PURLAND SOM PHONG, by Ch. Clonlost Yo Yo, and DAYBREAK, by Ch. Killdown Sultan. Each is a Premier award winner.**



**Kittens in harmony! They are a 1958 litter of four Silver Shaded and one Orange-eyed White Longhair bred by Mrs. E. M. St. George, of the Sunny View Cattery, Hindmarsh, South Australia. The kittens' maternal grandparent was the English-bred Ch. Sarisbury Lorenzo.**

# ***The flying cat***

By FRANCES COLLINGWOOD

**I**N this Sputnik Age it is interesting to learn that the Soviet dog was not the first animal to make a sacrifice for space history. Not by a long way.

On September 15th, 1784, an Italian diplomat named Vincenzo Lunardi, achieved the very first aerial flight to take place in Britain. This was in a balloon and with him into the clouds, he took a bottle of wine, a leg of chicken, some other eatables, one cat, one dog, and a pigeon.

The pigeon flew away almost immediately, the food became mixed with ballast sand and rendered uneatable, and about the dog we are told practically nothing. But the cat was a very different bundle of fur.

Not that we know what it looked like, or of what sex, although I like to picture a solid, sensible, shorthair tabby tom, with enormous yellow eyes and fat white paws.

This cat really did make flight history for, while the dog suffered in silence, the cat contrived to convey to Signor Lunardi that (according to contemporary records) it was "sensibly affected by the cold." How it did so must be left to the imagination but as the balloon ultimately attained a height of four miles, the cold must indeed have been intense.

Whatever may have been its methods, this flying puss succeeded so well in impressing upon the pilot the extent of its sufferings that he decided to descend to earth again so that the cat might be given attention. This he

succeeded in doing, coming down at North Mimms where he gave the cat in charge of a woman, and immediately stepped back into the balloon to continue his aerial voyage.

How surprised the woman must have been. Here was a great globe descending from the heavens to her very door, and out of it steps a foreign gentleman clasping a collapsed cat which he requests her to keep for a while! One can picture her standing there utterly bewildered, receiving the numbed animal thrust into her arms, only half taking in what was happening.

This curious event proved a red-letter day in the annals of flight. At last someone in Britain had succeeded in rising up into the sky, only to come down again because his cat passenger felt cold.

## **Sir Horace was angry**

The whole fascinating incident throws a new light upon the status of animals nearly two hundred years ago. That there should be so much consideration for the welfare of a cat is quite remarkable.

Horace Walpole was most indignant about the whole affair. Writing to a friend a few days after the event, he stated: "An Italian, one Lunardi, is the first aeronaut that mounted into the clouds in this country. So far from respecting him as a Jason, I was very angry with him: he had full right to venture his own neck, but not to risk the poor cat."

It is comforting to know that both animals survived their unique ordeal. We know this from an account of how Lunardi celebrated his triumph, while gathering in a little money for his next flight, by putting his balloon on show in London at the Pantheon, Regent Street, and with it were exhibited the cat and the dog.

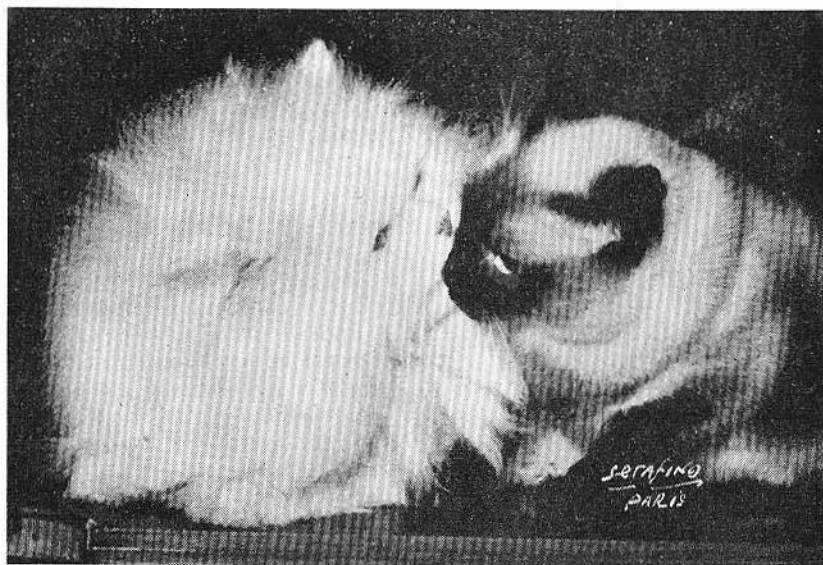
### No monument

Doubtless both animals were well fussed over, and treated to some really tasty meals after their adventure. But have any monuments been erected to their memory? There is the one near Ware, in Hertfordshire, that

marks the spot where Lunardi eventually descended for the second time on that memorable day, after being airborne for 2½ hours, but it bears no mention of his animal passengers.

January 11th last was the bi-centenary of his birth and while we marvel at the courage and skill he showed when he turned the first page in the marvellous history of flight in Britain, it is pleasant to remember that those two friends of man, the cat and the dog, were his companions during that eventful voyage.

All the same, I cannot help wishing we knew more about that serene and sensible flying cat.



This delightful picture comes from Mme M. Desgranges, a French subscriber and a member of the Cat Club de Paris. She writes: "Here is proof that Siamese agree with other cats. My Orange-eyed White Persian is always on the friendliest of terms with my 14-years-old Siamese lady—a pet. The Siamese even nursed and groomed a White Persian kitten who had been somewhat neglected by a young and careless mother."



## ***My visitor from England***

**BLANCHE WOLFRAM**, our American Associate Editor, records an interesting meeting with **Mrs. Irene Brittlebank**, former **Hon. Secretary and Show Manager of the Lancs. and N.W. Counties Cat Club**.

GALLAHAD CATTERY has had as its guest Mrs. Irene Brittlebank, a breeder of note in Blue Persians from far-off England. For many years it has been a secret ambition of mine to either visit England or to have the opportunity of talking to an English breeder. It always appeared to me that such an opportunity was most remote, so you can appreciate my happiness at the thought of meeting and talking with Mrs. Brittlebank at my home. It all came about through Irene's desire to visit her daughter who is now settled in the States.

Arrangements were made for her to visit me on February 6/8th. I found her to be a very gracious personality. It was a delightful pleasure talking with her and she had quite a time answering the many questions I put to her on all aspects of the Fancy in England. I learned many things, some of which were surprising. Others were enlightening.

She spoke very glowingly of all of you and conveyed such a word picture that I was able to understand why your cats have attained the high standard which is recognized throughout the cat world. Her description of your cats was so thorough that I could easily visualize each and everyone of them. Mrs. Brittlebank was indeed a perfect ambassador of goodwill and during her stay in America I am sure she will do much to advance the cause of English-bred cats. She will be visiting many other catteries

and wherever she goes she will leave behind a lasting impression created by her warm friendliness and eagerness to impart the knowledge of her own wide experience. I for one will remember her visit for a long, long time.

Mrs. Brittlebank reminisced about the war years and described the horrible happenings in the cities and countryside. She told me of the fortitude of breeders who maintained their stock in the face of all kinds of difficulties, particularly that of obtaining food. Many cats were lost but those which survived the war years were used to build up the English stock again and gradually life and activity returned to your Fancy. Not having experienced such hardships, we in America do not fully realize all that you have gone through.

### **Superstitions—in reverse**

For many years I have wondered why English breeders did not raise White Persians. Imagine my surprise when I was informed that superstitious people regard white cats as bad omens. Over here, the reverse is the case—we believe that black cats bring bad luck. However, not believing in any form of superstition, I cannot bring myself to believe that any cat, regardless of colour, could bring ill fortune to anyone.

Another surprising revelation was the fact that English breeders maintain only a few cats; as few as three or four. Perhaps the emphasis is always on quality and not quantity? Irene explained that even though the war years have passed, England is still not a land of

plenty and some breeders find it difficult to maintain a large number of cats. However, it is easy to see why so many cats of England have such great beauty when one considers that most of the finest studs appear in the pedigrees. Many great names such as Allington, Ashdown, Bonavia, Donraile, Dumesk, Pensford Prestwick and others were freely discussed. The points of each were brought to the fore and by scanning through my copies of OUR CATS we were able to discuss so many of the cats. I heard of the various catteries and how they were maintained and found myself wishing that I could visit them all to see the lovely occupants and to talk to their ambitious owners.

Then we spoke of your Governing Council and how it worked to maintain a high standard of quality in the cats and through its guidance has created a spirit of sportsmanship among its members. Mrs. Brittlebank told me about the personalities who have served so loyally as officers, each one upholding the fine tradition of their predecessors. Perhaps this is why a single association can hold everybody together in harmony.

### **A look at your shows**

Since I knew little or nothing about English show procedure, Irene was gracious enough to explain everything step by step. Listening to her I could imagine one of my own cats being an exhibit and what would take place during the entire run of the show. Your shows appear to be run most efficiently and must be exciting experiences. Maybe some day, I may be able to take part in one of them. At least I hope so!

After I had asked all the questions I could think of, it was Irene's turn to inquire about some of the happenings in my cattery and how we try to better our cats. I believe that she was pleasantly surprised by all she saw and learned. We made a tour of the premises and she was shown each and every cat. She liked the way the cages were painted and

the use of the porcelain pans which contain a litter which eliminates odours. She liked the manner in which the cats are fed upon clean dishes and the diet which I am using. Each cat and its ancestry was discussed and she was given an understanding of my problems and agreed to help me in anyway that she could to realize my ambition to produce the *perfect* cat. She brought out many fine points that could be of help and I was thankful for her thoughtfulness and advice which I am sure will be of great help in years to come.

### **A highlight**

I took her to visit my veterinarian in his animal hospital and she was most impressed by the cleanliness, the medicines and equipment and also the kindness and thoroughness of my vet. She had to agree that our veterinarians are more completely equipped to combat diseases and to administer surgically to our cats. I am sure that this was one of the highlights of her visit.

As the time for Irene's departure drew near, I was reluctant to let her go and wished that she could stay on for many more days. However, I knew there were so many others who would be glad to welcome her and who are so anxious to learn all about the English Fancy that I had to let her go on her way. All who meet her will find a person of pleasant ways, helpful and understanding, and one who is a credit to the Fancy. Thank you, Irene, for the many things you have taught me, not only about the breeding of fine cats, but how to spread goodwill amongst those who love cats.





## **Reproduction (No. 53)**

By A. C. JUDE

*This popular series of monographs has brought added interest to breeding operations throughout the cat world and has helped fanciers by supplying information concerning both inherited and all other factors. Each article has a direct bearing on the genetic basis for the likenesses and differences between cats. Readers who have problems they would like to submit to Mr. Jude should address them to him c/o this Magazine.*

THE present series has now reached a stage where further advance into the subject might not be helpful for average fanciers. Since "Reproduction" was introduced into these pages, many new readers have joined us. From letters received, it appears there is wish for a new series, dealing with elementary animal genetics which will include definitions and explanations of the scientific and semi-scientific terms as they crop up. A new series will therefore be arranged and started at an early date.

Before doing this, one or two items of general interest remain to be dealt with. Especially during the last few weeks quite a flow of letters has come to hand asking why some writers warn against "in-breeding" while others are against "out-crossing."

Let it be said at once that to take any fixed or determined stand on either viewpoint is unrealistic. Even if each is looked upon as a distinct process, each has its place and importance, and the value of either or both in practice can only be determined by particular needs and circumstances operating at any one time. For a person who takes one view to say anyone who takes the opposite view shows ignorance of genetics is nonsense, and probably indicates the boot may be on the other foot.

Perhaps our first concern should be to know precisely what we mean when using

the terms "in-breeding" or "out-crossing," for even clear-sounding words like these may assume slightly different meanings in differing circumstances. The general meaning of in-breeding is the breeding-in to coming progeny some characteristic of colour, colour-marking, type or health, already exhibited or contained by the parents and ancestry. This is done by selection through a knowledge of the parents and ancestry, remembering that the ancestry is often more important than the immediate parents who may not happen to be—unless members of one particular and well established strain—well representative of the ancestor's characteristics.

### **Family strain**

It has been definitely established that so far as phenotype, and especially colour is concerned, a rather mediocre individual of a strain may well throw, when mated to a suitable member of the strain, quite good or even outstanding progeny. This is one of the facts which demonstrates actual value of "family strain."

The "family strain" system is undoubtedly the only way to ensure that good qualities are reproduced in maximum effect, and because of this it is obviously correct to say that the quickest way to establish some particular feature is to breed the closest relationships—mainly brother to sister. This of course is termed "close-inbreeding," and the point we make here is that when one



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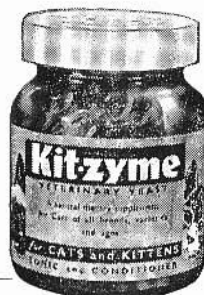
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uses or hears the term "in-breeding" this does *not* of necessity mean "close-inbreeding."

"In-breeding" within a strain means the use of relatives as mating partners even though they be distant in connection. In a family strain it is usual to select pairs each particularly good in the general requirements, giving special preference to those animals who show some outstanding trait, but never for long neglecting any of the good points built-up in the strain.

So far, we have only considered "in-breeding" where this is practised by fanciers who are self contained, i.e. where fanciers are not dependant on studs from outside. We have also only spoken of good qualities.

### Problems of outcrossing

There may well be occasions where some "good" quality or other in a strain is lagging and therefore needs boosting. It is advisable in such cases to seek a suitable mate from a strain which has been built up from members of your own strain and if a suitable animal can be found that way, little upsets in other directions may occur. In fact, we may still consider the process of "in-breeding" is being practised, even though we have "out-crossed" to this other strain. But the position is very different if we have to "outcross" to an unrelated strain.

One might think that if the best member of one's own strain was mated with the best of an unrelated strain—both animals being perhaps high perfect—youngsters would be produced as a matter of course, who would at least be very good indeed. This, however, is not of necessity the case. In fact, such matings will often produce youngsters who are very poor indeed. This is especially observable in marked varieties—such as Dutch rabbits—where the markings are usually so well placed and defined.

We all know that no two animals are quite alike, except perhaps identical

twins who share equal environment. Differences are, in the main, due to sets of minor genes which vary between animals of a breed. It is these which cause the differences between characteristics.

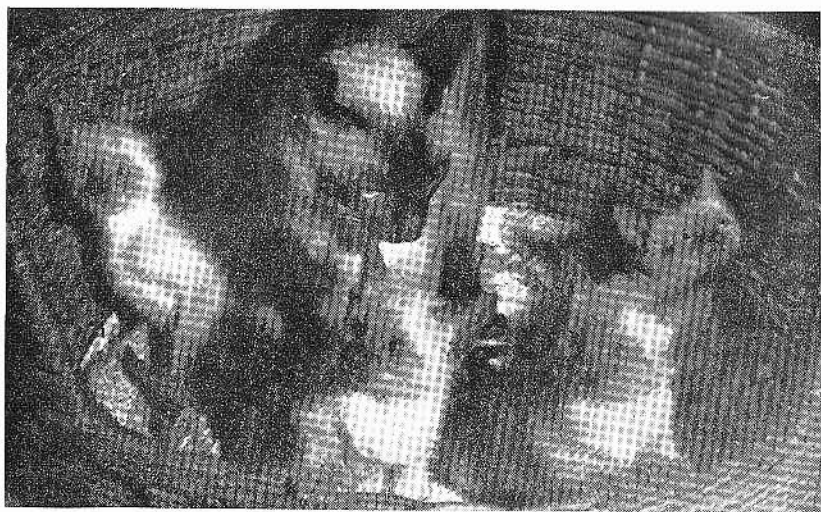
In a strain, minor genes are carried forward in fair regularity, but in outcrossing the balance and regularity is upset. But it may well happen that, if as a result of the first cross the progeny are inferior, a correction will occur if the youngsters are mated back to their parents. There will at least be something comparable with the quality of the original strain.

When dealing with some particular colour breed—say L.H. Blues—it is certainly advisable when colour (shade) is concerned, to breed colour to colour. If this is done within a strain, one does stand a fair chance of establishing a required shade. One would indeed be bold to attempt to alter some particular shade of blue by outcrossing say to black.

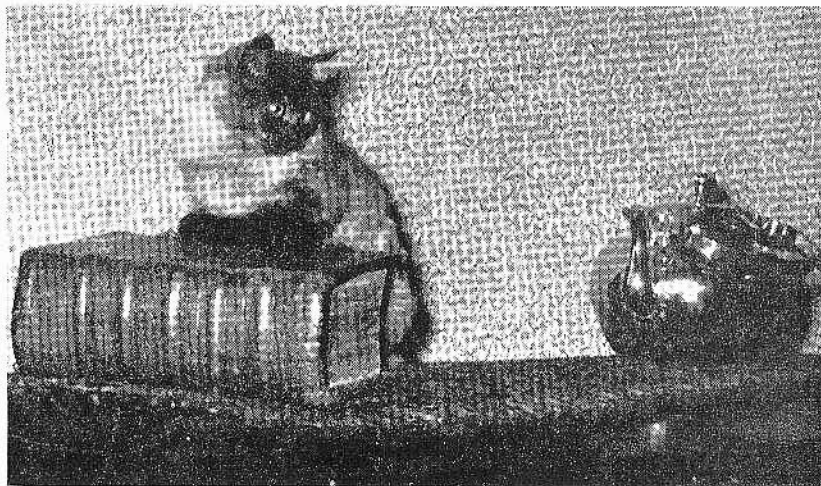
### Black x Blue

Although it is possible that darker shades might be expected in Blues from a pedigree pure Black x Blue, one might well get youngsters even as light as pale aluminium—not even blue enough to be considered by fancy standards to be good blue at all. This has actually been observed from a mating between Black and Blue, both of excellent pedigree. So one takes quite a chance in outcrossings of this sort, even between two colours known normally to segregate cleanly. Again, the shades are largely being conditioned by minor genes, so each such mating has to be looked upon as a matter of trial.

On the other hand, if some improvement in type in Blues is considered necessary, and if this cannot be reached within one's strain of Blues, one could resort to an outcross with a Black, providing one of really outstanding type is available, and if one is prepared to risk set-back in some other direction,



This happy domestic scene will be familiar in countless homes throughout the cat world during the coming months. Mrs. Jean C. Walker, of Whirlowdale, Sheffield, a newcomer to Siamese breeding, is naturally thrilled by the achievement of her SUMMERFIELD PSYCHE, who produced this bonny quartette by Milori Linko.



We are sorry that details relating to this charming little smoke kitten have been mislaid. We are only able to say that it is Treetops Undine, bred by Mrs. Fletcher of Liphook, Hants.

always remembering that possibly by the time the set back is corrected, the improvement in type may have gone.

Outcrossing is on occasion a matter of necessity. For instance, it is usually the answer to unwanted recessives, particularly those connected with inherited health factors. Again, in cases of low vigour or lost size, outcrossing can be used with good effect.

In cases where new factors occur as a result of mutation, both inbreeding and outcrossing may be necessary if separate

breeds carrying such factors are to be formed. Similarly—as for example in poultry or farm animals—crosses may be arranged which will produce, through the progeny, some kind of improved output. The cross is then established into a strain by the use of inbreeding.

So we come back to the point that both “inbreeding” and “outcrossing” have their special purposes. To flatly defend or decry one or the other is clearly wrong.

*(to be continued)*

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## SIAMESE LOVERS MEET TO TALK OVER COMMON PROBLEMS

THE idiosyncrasies of the Siamese cat may appear to be a complex subject. No one would doubt that these beautiful creatures have special characteristics which endear them to breeders and owners alike.

At a meeting held in London recently the Siamese cat was given pride of place and many Seal and Blue Point ears must have been burning that night. The meeting was something of an innovation, since it provided an opportunity for veterinary surgeons, breeders and nutritionists to get together and talk over their common problems. It was organized by the London Division of the British Small Animal Veterinary Association. The Cat Fancy was represented by Miss Yorke, Chairman of the Governing Council, Mrs. L. J. A. Price and Mrs. E. Towe, members of the Council.

There was a two-way exchange of information and ideas and many veterinary surgeons present emphasized the great debt they owe to cat owners and breeders who patiently carry out their instructions and whose devotion and good nursing can often mean the difference between success and failure.

Much discussion took place about the tendency of Siamese to lose heart when they are ill, and of the vital need to keep them interested in life and their surroundings in order to ensure that they recover. In this connection the benefit of

fresh air, especially when taken out in the garden, can often have a wonderful effect. Miss Yorke also emphasized the importance of making it clear to the sick cat that its return to health was the most important thing its owner wanted.

Turning from the subject of disease the meeting also discussed correct feeding and Dr. Pat Scott, an expert in this subject, pointed out the dangers of diets based exclusively on meat and particularly heart. These diets can often lead to a serious weakening of the bones which can permanently deform the cat unless corrected early in life. While Dr. Scott did not wish to commit herself, she did feel that the administration of bonemeal could be of great benefit.

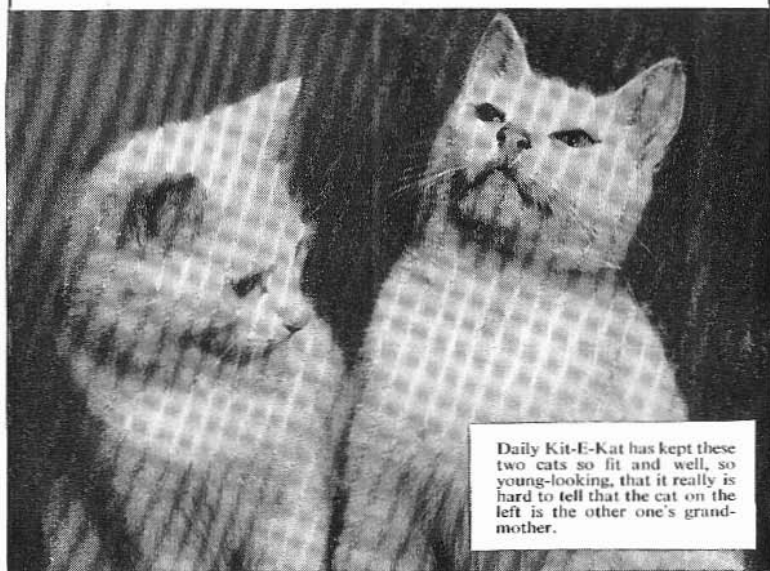
The Chairman of the meeting then referred to feline enteritis. Everyone agreed that this was the most serious disease affecting cats and especially the Siamese. He said “How unfortunate it was that so few people made use of the wonderful vaccines now available against this condition, since their use could save so much unhappiness.”

The meeting was held in The Royal Society of Medicine and discussion went on to a late hour. At its end everyone agreed that it had been a most interesting evening and both veterinary surgeons and breeders had given and received a great deal of help and information.

G. N. HENDERSON.

## WHICH CAT IS THE GRANDMOTHER?

It's hard to tell—they BOTH look so young!



Daily Kit-E-Kat has kept these two cats so fit and well, so young-looking, that it really is hard to tell that the cat on the left is the other one's grandmother.

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# Tailpieces

*A regular newsy feature  
with a selection of the best  
items from home and overseas*



**W**ORKMEN at the British Railways motive power department at Hasland, Derbyshire, clubbed together to pay for an operation on their pet cat, which was found injured in one of the workshops. The operation, which was estimated to cost the men 3s. each, was successful.

The Smythe family of Worcester Park, Surrey, have good reason to thank their lucky stars and the intelligence of their Siamese cat. In the early hours of the morning Mrs. Smythe was awakened by the cat's persistent clawing of the bed-clothes and to her horror found the room full of gas. She collapsed and was eventually rescued by her husband who was also able to warn their 26-year-old daughter who was asleep in the adjoining room. Subsequent inspection revealed that the main supply pipe to the house had been fractured, probably due to some movement of the foundations on the clay soil.

One of the patients at the Croydon (Surrey) Dispensary of the P.D.S.A. was a stray ginger kitten, about three months old. The officer in charge noticed that the kitten's tail had had a piece amputated from the end and that it still carried a couple of stitches. Enquiries among local veterinary surgeons tracked down the one responsible for the operation and he was able to supply the name and address of the kitten's owner. The little stray is now back among "the old familiar places."

That very lively body of cat folk Miami (Florida, U.S.A.) Cat Fanciers

are presenting a petition to their parent organization C.F.A. calling for the full recognition of neuters and spays. It is suggested that these cats should be accepted for registration and that it should be made possible for them to win show points and awards on a wider scale than that which exists at present. Further, it is suggested that such liberalization would spread interest in the Fancy, induce more owners to show their pets and help the breeders without in any way detracting from the honours won by entire cats. There's food for thought here ?

Have you ever heard of a cat club making "a lucky strike ?" The Calgary Cat Club of Alberta, Canada, have done it and "silver" is the find. Sixteen dazzling cups and trophies, over 35 years old, have been brought to light after being hidden in an attic since 1925. They belong to the original Alberta Cat Club and are reminders of the days when Calgary was really a cowtown and the cats were shown in a parlour in what is now a busy shopping centre. The "hoard" will later be displayed by the Hudson's Bay Company in connection with the Club's 2-day Championship Show in September, which will be staged in the world famous Calgary Exhibition and Stampede Grounds.

In those far off days of the Alberta Cat Club, one of the ways the ladies raised funds to put on their show was to measure the wrists of all the members. They totted up the inches, called the inches cents, and each member was required to donate the appropriate

number of cents to the common fund. I understand that a gentleman member of the Calgary Club has volunteered to run a similar fund-raising scheme—if the lady members will agree to substitute their ankles for their wrists!

A branch of the Calgary Cat Club is being formed at Edmonton, two hundred miles north.

A little tabby kitten was responsible for a traffic jam in a busy London street during the rush hour. The driver of a bus pulled up sharply when he saw the kitten in the road. It was found on the back axle of the bus and there it stayed for twenty minutes in spite of the enticements of passengers and shoppers. Traffic piled up and the driver was ordered to move on by the police. But after going a few more yards the driver pulled up again and still the kitten stayed on. After more delay the bus resumed its journey and a search that night at the garage failed to locate the little passenger who hadn't paid his fare. Some onlookers said that the kitten had dashed away to safety after the second stop.

Apologies are due to Mrs. Hildegard Schulte, of Lunen, West Germany. In last month's issue we described her lovely Chinchilla Bonavia Keepsake as a queen. The slip was discovered just too late for correction and so we make amends now. Keepsake is, of course, a male and one of the best of his breed on the Continent. Sorry Keepsake, Mrs. Schulte and breeder Mrs. Mollie Turney!

The Chancellor of the Exchequer was asked in Parliament the other day why mouse-traps of all kinds are still subject to purchase tax, whereas only the breakback and other household types of rat-traps were taxed. He was urged to exempt all mouse-traps and rat-traps. Mr. Heathcoat Amory, the Chancellor, replied wittily that the tax applies to domestic articles only and that he would bear in mind the hon. member's wish for equality between mice and rats "so that, even in death, none shall be more equal than others."

Did you know that St. Ives, Cornwall, lays claim to having more cats in relation to the human population than any other town in Great Britain? On the whole they are a much-loved and well-cared-for section of the community but in 1947 nearly 500 cats and kittens were put down by the local branch of the R.S.P.C.A.

A subscriber writes me from Kenya Colony to say that she circularized 1,000 people in the Colony asking if they would be interested in forming a cat club. Only three replies were received. Whilst these few lines hardly convey a success story, it's always good to hear from a trier.

In a recent competition sponsored by the *Daily Telegraph* two cash prizes were offered for the best poems by juniors. The winners both wrote about their cats and the editor commented that cats were great favourites among the entrants. The prize-winning drawing showed a cat stealing a ride on a horse with the caption "Where's that cat got to?" A winning poem by 8-year-old Joanna Denty, of Romsey, ran:

#### TO MY CAT

Black body, green eyes,  
Never worries, never cries,  
Always comes when you call,  
Walking along the garden wall.  
Never scratches, never bites,  
Never fusses, never fights.  
Never nibbles children's toys,  
Never mingles with cat boys.

Another national newspaper, the *Daily Mail*, has been offering a handsome prize for the best suggestion from a reader for "a simple, inexpensive, and humane method of deterring cats from intruding in the garden." The winner was a Kentish reader who suggested soaking pieces of rag in household ammonia. These are inserted into a number of small bottles (for example empty aspirin bottles) and the bottles are buried up to their necks at various

points in the garden. The rags can be recharged with ammonia drops from time to time, as required.

Anyone interested in the newly recognized Chestnut Brown Foreign Shorthairs should get in touch with Mrs. Joan Judd, Little Close, Old Down, Tockington, nr. Bristol. Mrs. Judd is now working to build up interest in and support for the breed so that eventually it will be possible to form a specialist club. She is confident that there is a good future for Chestnut Browns and that it is



*Western Morning News*

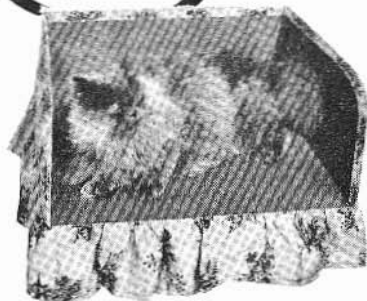
Miss Kathleen Yorke, Chairman of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, adds up points at the Paignton Show of the South Western Counties Cat Club. The Blue Colourpoint kitten—Mr. Brian Stirling-Webb's Briarry Morena—was Best Kitten Exhibit.

important at this juncture to build up a solid foundation. She tells me that a Dutch firm of chocolate manufacturers whose artist designed the head of a "Havana" cat for chocolate box illustration, have granted permission for its use in any promotion literature. The design portrays foreign type, lovely oriental green eyes and the chestnut colouring. And oddly and timely enough, it sprang from the artist's imagination.

*That newsy little item about cats you have read in your local newspaper or in the magazine you have just put down . . . will you be kind enough to clip it out and post it to me in an unsealed envelope? Cuttings from overseas publications are particularly welcome. I send best thanks to all who have helped in this connection.*

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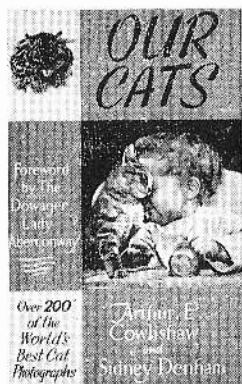
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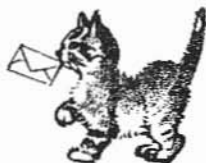
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## Correspondence Corner

Readers are invited to send contributions to this feature and so to join in the useful exchange of ideas, experiences and knowledge. Letters should be concise and deal preferably with items of general interest.



### Cortisone—A Warning

I WAS greatly interested in Mr. Allen's letter in your February issue regarding the use of cortisone in the cure of feline enteritis. I conclude it *was* feline infectious enteritis and not non-specific enteritis?

I am wondering if these cats suffered any side effects as is usual with humans in the use of cortisone. It is my usual practice when I read or hear of new treatments to discuss them with a good cross-section of the veterinary profession and in this instance I was more than a little deflated to hear veterinary opinion unimpressed. They considered there are certainly better cures available than cortisone in the treatment of F.I.E.

It appears it is apt in many cases to give spectacular results and then often a great deterioration, especially if there happens to be anaemia present. This is most disappointing, but as such "cures" are still entirely in the experimental stages strict records should be kept of each case, together with the age and previous health of the cat. To jump to conclusions either way would I feel be wrong. *It needs thorough investigation.*

In humans, cortisone, once hailed with great enthusiasm as the complete cure for arthritis, has failed. It helped a few cases, cured a few cases, produced frightful side effects in some and rendered completely mental many others. It should therefore be used with great caution and deliberation.

I do not know whether it is generally known amongst cat breeders that the B vitamins manufacture natural cortisone

in the system. I would therefore certainly employ the latest antibiotics plus injections of the B vitamins in preference to cortisone if I were faced with the decision.

It is hoped that when available the use of Interferon will revolutionize the prevention and cure of virus infections.

MRS. JOAN JUDD.

Tockington, nr. Bristol.

### Chinchilla Breeding

May I, one of your original subscribers, record my reactions to the article by Mr. Stirling-Webb in your November issue. I second all the sentiments expressed by Mrs. Turney. In addition, I disagree with his statement that "there are few specimens to-day, if any, which have good bone or the typical broad round head of the Longhair." This, of course, is absolute nonsense.

The foremost Chinchilla breeder of to-day, Miss Evelyn Langston, has by selective breeding within the breed achieved Chinchillas with the typical broad round head with the sweet expression so desired in the breed. I am certain that I would not admire a Chinchilla cat with the type of a Blue. It would look altogether too heavy and the two photographs which adorn the article illustrate my point to perfection.

It must also be remembered that head and type in Chinchillas is secondary to colour and coat. A Chinchilla with its pure silky sparkling coat will not be achieved by crossing with a Blue, with its coat of a different texture.

The Chinchilla has won a very high place in popularity and if in time (as Mr. Stirling-Webb prophesies) the Colourpoint overtakes it, we must not hasten this by foolishly destroying the greatest attributes of the breed—the sweet expression, the bold green eye and the ethereal and fairy-like appearance. It is definitely not a heavy breed.

MRS. EMILIE F. M. POLDEN.  
Crowthorne, Berks.

#### **For and Against**

May I say how much I enjoy having your Magazine. Its international atmosphere is particularly enjoyable and I wish that more of its spirit could be absorbed by our own Fancy.

A WILTSHIRE READER.

I am sorry to advise you that I shall not be renewing my subscription to OUR CATS this year, the reason being that you have too much foreign news and this doesn't interest me.

A SURREY READER.

*[Which goes to prove that you can only hope to please "some of the people some of the time!" But the loss of a parochially-minded reader here and there will not divert us from our main purpose (so often set down in our columns), which is to serve as a link of friendship and common interest between cat folk all over the world.—EDITOR].*

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**Readers' contributions to this feature are always welcomed. . . . We could do with many more!** *Editor.*

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**We expect to be able to publish in our May issue the List of Champions for the 1958/9 Season and also a Show Calendar for the 1959/60 Season.**



## A FEW TIPS ON KITTEN CARE

*Extracts from an article contributed in 1950 by Miss KATHLEEN YORKE*

**T**HE time is here when your mother cat will have had or is expecting kittens. Their whole future is dependent on the way they are tended and guarded during the first months of their lives. If you know the mother is capable and reliable, leave the kittens to her care at first, always keeping watch on them to see that they are progressing and that each kit is feeding from the mother and not being pushed out. Often the stronger ones push a weaker one away and it is necessary then to ensure that the unlucky one gets several good feeds.

Handling young kittens is sometimes necessary. But remember to handle as seldom as possible.

Have a change of blankets ready for the bed, so that you can put the clean one in as the old blanket is taken out. Thus the kittens need only be put on the clean blanket and not removed from the box.

### Fixing the Blanket

If the mother cat goes out into the garden she may pick up a flea or two, which will quickly leave her for the young ones. So sprinkle some well known flea powder *under* the blanket. Do not use a powder containing D.D.T. Never put the powder on top of the blanket as the kittens would roll in it and the mother might get very ill through cleaning them. It is a wise plan to pin or fix the blanket to the bottom of the box as this prevents the possibility of any of the kittens getting underneath and suffocating.

I have had cats who liked to roll the kits up in the blanket, making a long sausage of it, when they are going out. They cleverly unrolled the blanket on their return and there was always the

danger that one of the kits would be left in the last fold and thus get laid on. So fix your blanket and, if you can, have a count on mother's return to the box to see that none of the kits is missing.

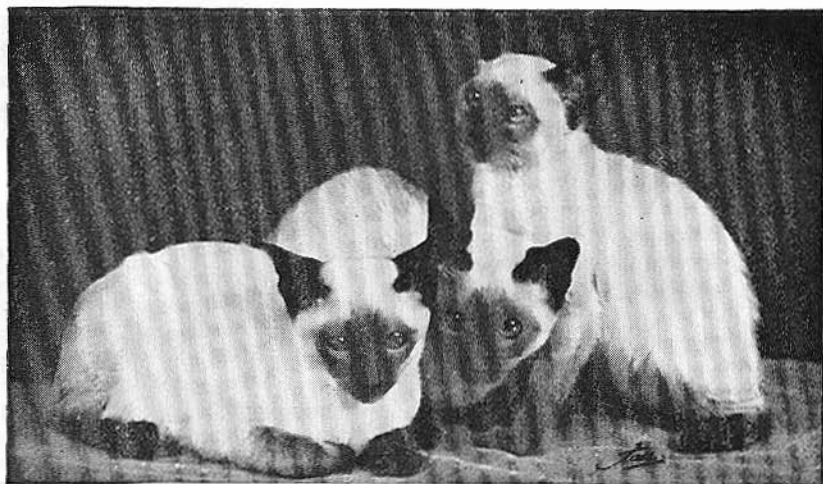
### Sticky Eyes

The box itself should be arranged so that the mother can get in and out easily. Place it away from any draughts as this is fatal to cats and kittens. Do not have a direct light falling on them. Kitten's eyes must be protected until they are well opened and for a week or two after. Their eyes do not open until about the ninth day, and when open they are very delicate and must be watched in case they stick up. If this happens, gently bathe the eyes night and morning with warm boracic water and rub a tiny smear of vaseline across the lids last thing at night.

When bathing the eyes use a clean piece of cotton wool each time and see that you dry them gently but well. If left wet the eyes will most likely stick again. If any of the kittens' eyes are not starting to open on the ninth day, hold the kit gently and bathe each eye in turn, keeping the wet, warm wool over each eye for a minute or two. Use the boracic water mentioned above and gently smear with vaseline after you have dried the eyes.



# TIBSICAL TRIO



Tibby the TIBS reporter discovered these three beauties in Mrs. Price's Devoran Cattery at Bushey, Herts. They're the magnificent descendants of that famous

Siamese Stud 'Prestwick Prithie Pal', the pride of the household for many years. They each have a TIBS tablet every day.



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TABLETS



**KEEP CATS TIBSICAL**



Presented by JOAN THOMPSON

**M**RS. JOAN THOMPSON—popular and active figure in the Cat Fancy for many years, breeder and International judge—turns the pages of her diary to reveal the most interesting entries concerning personalities, both human and feline.

#### At the Southern Counties

**A** SUNNY day was a welcome asset to the last London Championship Show of the season, the Southern Counties Cat Club at the Seymour Hall on January 27th. I have never seen this hall look better in mid-winter. It is a pity that it is "off the beaten track" and so seldom attracts a gate comparable with those at the Ch. shows held at the Royal Horticultural Halls. Without good attendances by the public, especially when there is the inducement of a lovely day, clubs which organize London shows would soon find themselves with diminishing resources.

Nearly 400 exhibits made a lovely array although some of the Longhairs were past their best in coat for this season and the competition was not so exciting or exacting in some varieties as it was at Olympia in December where several lovely cats and kittens terminated their show career for the season. Mrs. Dunks,

very capably assisted by Mr. Dunks, was Show Manager. Later we were informed that she will not be organizing the 1960 fixture. But she will not be lost as a show manager. Her activities will be local as she will be managing the Exemption Show of the Siamese Cat Club of the British Empire at Reading in early August.

Awards were as follow: Best Longhair Cat—Miss Langston's Chinchilla male Ch. Fidelio of Allington by Ch. Flambeau of Allington; Best Longhair Kitten—Miss Langston's Chinchilla Marjolaine of Allington by Ch. Fidelio of Allington; Best Longhair Neuter—Mrs. Calder's Chinchilla Brocton's Margaret by Ch. Flambeau of Allington. A field day for Chinchillas! Best Shorthair Cat—Miss Hardman's Red Tabby male Killinghall Red Cap by Ch. Killinghall Red Lion; Best Shorthair Kitten—Mrs. Thake's Silver Tabby Silverseal Herrick by Ch. Dorstan Darrall and last but not least Mrs. Montgomery's very handsome S.P. Siamese neuter Daybreak coming into his own by becoming a Premier and Best S.H. Neuter. This lovely son of Ch. Killdown Sultan has appealed to many of us and his final was a popular award.

Mrs. Brind's Blue-Cream Brynwood Aurora by Ch. Widdington Winterset and Ch. Moonrise of Pensford became a Champion. She is outstanding for head and type and lovely wide awake eyes, qualities which are so essential in a Blue-Cream, from whom it is logical to expect our best Creams.

Mrs. Gaskin's Blue-eyed White female Myrwal Prettikin by Ch. Lotus Atlas also achieved her final Certificate. She is a welcome addition to Longhairs. Since Mrs. Cattermole has ceased to exhibit her famous Lotus Blue-eyed Whites we have been sadly lacking in this variety at post-war shows.

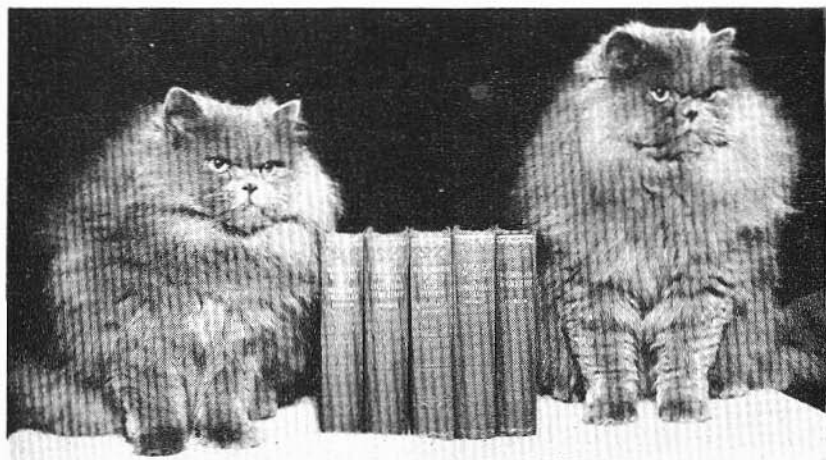
Mrs. Reid's Champion Briaric Beauty added his fourth Challenge Certificate to terminate a very successful first season as an adult. His consistency must be very gratifying to his owner as in addition to the above he has twice been Best Longhair Cat and never below second in his Open Class. He is the male I wrote about in July OUR CATS and readers may be interested in his origin.

During autumn 1953 Mrs. Reid, then a complete stranger to me, telephoned for a kitten to have as a neutered pet. I had nothing to offer and recommended Anchusa Girlie, a daughter of Gem of Pensford bred by Mr. and Mrs. Raleigh. I explained that she could be spayed but advised Mrs. Reid to allow her to have at least one litter first. Girlie had some bonny kittens by Ch. Foxburrow Frivolous but as she is a

big queen and he a cobby male who cannot always mate big queens quickly, his son Ch. Lavengro of Dunesk was decided on for a second mating and Ch. Briaric Beauty was the pick of this litter.

Needless to say when Anchusa Girlie had her first family Mr. and Mrs. Reid and her two grown up sons, all cat lovers, were so captivated that no more was heard about spaying and in a whisper one records that their cat family to-day consists of Ch. Briaric Beauty, his mother and her two daughters respectively and a Blue-Cream Katinka of Pensford. Credit is due to Mrs. Reid for quickly grasping the fact that well bred cats, affection and good feeding are not the only essentials for success at shows, especially with adults. Longhairs particularly must be groomed for stardom and live under thoroughly hygienic conditions all the year round.

Mrs. Reid's queens are house pets and have complete liberty in her large garden but this does not mean "running wild." They are called in sometime before dusk and not allowed out again. Queens are usually "choosy" about the weather in daylight but after dusk they



Mrs. Reid's Blue Longhair male CH. BRIARIC BEAUTY (right) and his litter sister BRIARIC BUBBLES pose as book ends.

are more difficult to get in whatever the weather. Ch. Briar Beauty has a well built spacious house, nice big run, and sometimes liberty in the garden, but only under supervision, which is wise, with a male.

Almost a veteran turned up to annex the Blue female Championship—Mrs. Brunton's buxom Gaydene Wild Rose (by Ch. Southway Crusader) bred by Mrs. McVady in 1952. Rose has been so busy rearing large families of quality that she has had to by-pass shows. Towards the end of last summer an exceptionally bad thunder storm and hurricane struck Horsham and many other localities and the fright of having the windows of her house blown in caused Wild Rose to give premature birth to six physically perfect kittens. It was some compensation when she won her first Ch. Certificate in January.

She was a handsome queen in full pomp. Her sire, by the way, was pictured in November OUR CATS on page 4. Ch. Southway Crusader's very lovely little ears and his perfect top of head have seldom been surpassed and when we see these in our stock we usually find him among the first or second generation and these qualities being passed on by his descendants.

The winning Cream male Mrs. Ross's Shapur Antonius by Ch. Hathaway Anthony Roly and the Cream female Mrs. Barron's Dalan Susan by Paul of Pensford were each awarded their second Challenge Certificate. Miss Watts' Seal Colourpoint Champion Briarry Fair Maid was awarded her fourth Certificate. She is by Briarry Agu Hett.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson's S.P. Siamese male Pincop Jo-Ho by Ch. Causeway Pita and Mrs. Clarke's S.P. female Craigiehillock Minta by Ch. Killdown Sultan were the winners in their Open Classes. In Blue-Points Mrs. Davies's Spotlight Adonis by Ch. Clonlost Yo-Yo and Miss Ellias's Browndreys Mari by Ch. Fernreig Zyn caught the judge's eye.

The winning Chinchilla female was Mrs. Turney and the Hon. Mrs. Haden-Guest's Bonavia Maretta. Congratulations on achieving Championship status with this nice exhibit.

Some of the award slips were late in being posted on the board and these were the only ones I noted, and are some of the cats who won top honours on the day.

## Kitten Show next

Our next London fixture will be the Kensington Kitten and Neuter Cat Club Show in July. It is always delightful and enjoyable when we see the first results of a new breeding season. Mrs. Aitken (Hon. Secretary) will be organizing it so we know it will be well run.

## Success by a novice

The success achieved by Mr. Leving of Leeds at his first shows are another excellent example of what it is possible

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for novices to do if they commence with the right stock. He writes :—

“ Eighteen months ago I purchased a three months female Smoke kitten named Treetops Zephyr by Ch. Bircotte No No and Treetops Psyche. Instead of a kitten conforming to the G.C. Standard I was confronted by a tiny adorable creature with black tabby markings on white background, the mask and other points being a dark grey. Quite unperturbed I took her to the Edinburgh and East Scotland Ch. Show and to my utter amazement and delight she was awarded Reserve Best Longhair Kitten. By this time her tabby markings were disappearing. Being a newcomer I asked the judges why? All were most helpful and I was assured that in due course Zephyr's markings should dis-

appear and her mask and points become dense black.

“ My first success gave me confidence and I entered her for Preston, the Yorkshire Counties Cat Club Ch. Show and the first show of the Northern Counties Cat Club. She was Best L.H. Kitten at all three. It was with some misgivings that I entered her for the next show as she now had to compete as an adult for a Challenge Certificate and I had the proudest moment of my short career as an exhibitor when she received it and was Best L.H. Adult. The show season over we turned to affairs of a domestic nature. Time passed in an agony of waiting and eventually she presented me with four kittens, two Smokes and two shady Blues sired by a massive Blue Borrowdale Mitzoah, a



**Mr. S. D. Leving's Smoke Longhair CH. TREETOPS ZEPHYR**  
Please see notes above for further details concerning this interesting cat and her enthusiastic owner.



grandson of Champion Widdington Warden and Ch. Astra of Pensford.

"This last winter season she was awarded her second C.C. at Yorkshire C.C.C. Ch. Show, and at Notts and Derby Ch. Show Treetops Zephyr became a Champion. At both these shows one of her two Smoke kittens was brought out for Best in Show and at the last Ch. Show of the season the Lancashire and North Western Counties Cat Club at Stockport her male kitten Beauvale Conquest was Best Longhair Kitten.

"The female Smoke kitten has gone to a new member of the Fancy who hopes to breed with her. I shall continue to breed Smokes, and I feel certain that with more publicity many fanciers would interest themselves in this rare and beautiful breed. Zephyr's beauty is exceeded only by her sweet disposition."

Congratulations to Mr. Leving! At two shows I saw his lovely exhibits and as usual with top honours, the physical condition of them contributed to their success.

## Fur balls

This is the time of year when we have to be on our guard against fur balls. Any cat may get them however well and methodically groomed. The first sign may be a slight disinclination for food and the cat may become lethargic. If one has not been to a show or the cat has had no contact with any possible source of infection and there are no other symptoms, I should give medicinal paraffin.

For novices the method advised is to slightly warm the paraffin to make it run quickly off the spoon which should also be lukewarm. Always use a larger spoon than the dose as any oil spilt on the coat of a Longhair will percolate over an incredible area. The dose I give my adults is a teaspoonful and a half divided into two doses and if necessary one teaspoonful the following day.

I have heard of cats who will take it on their food which of course is much the best way but mine would leave the food. My vet gives it by pipette but I found the spoon method much simpler.

Now the first signs of spring are here the coarse grasses cats prefer are springing up and these appear to help them to vomit fur balls. For those in captivity it is essential to provide a suitable variety. The Cats Protection League, 29 Church Street, Slough, Bucks., will on request, send seeds of cocksfoot grass which can be grown in pots if necessary. Although no fee is demanded I would like to suggest a suitable donation is enclosed with the order. This well organized League with its devoted Secretary Mr. A. A. Steward is the only one in this country working exclusively for cats and we may be sure everything donated will be utilized for their benefit.

## Photographs for publication

During the year many photographs are received but comparatively few are technically good enough for reproduction in this magazine. Prints preferably postcard size must be on glossy paper, sharp and unmounted with the name of the cat and sex on the reverse side. Some names are equally applicable to either sex and unless they are well known winners their sex may be unknown to the Editor or myself. Some of the best submitted are taken by professional photographers and so clear one can see the texture of the fur. Any which are sent to me are forwarded to the Editor and he is arbiter as to which are published.

## Our Picture Book

Mrs. McEachern writing from San Francisco, California, tells me that *Our Cats Picture Book* (recently published) is her thirty-sixth cat book and adds: "Such beautiful cats and such interesting information. It is a lovely addition to

my collection." Cat breeders have never had such a wealth of information and so many illustrations of good cats as are available to them to-day. When I commenced breeding one book only was available. Miss Frances Simpson, who was one of the "leading lights" of the Fancy in those days published *Cats for Pleasure and Profit* (price 3s. 6d.) in 1924. As Bonnie Boy the Blue Persian kitten depicted must have been considered good in those days one realizes Blues have come a long way since then although I must confess I do not remember them as "nosey" as he appeared to be nor with such outsize ears.

### National A.G.M.

Thirty-three members attended the Annual General Meeting of the National Cat Club on February 9th. Members now number 184 and although distance precludes many from making the trip to London, one expects a higher proportion than 33 to be sufficiently interested to attend. However, this is more or less the usual percentage at other A.G.M.'s. The retiring delegates Miss Kathleen Yorke, Mrs. Brunton, Mrs. Speirs and the Rev. Basil Rees were re-elected and the Hon. Secretary Mrs. Brunton and Hon. Treasurer Miss K. Yorke were unopposed and re-elected to again fill these positions.

A letter was read from Mrs. Crickmore suggesting that the classes for household pets should be discontinued. Although some members spoke in favour of them it is a debatable subject and from my correspondence and opinions expressed to me at shows and meetings I know there are many in agreement with Mrs. Crickmore. The suggestion that the Best in Show judging should take place for pedigree exhibits before the household pets was obviously a feasible one. I must confess that the reason why it was not done at the last show did not seem adequate to me, viz: That an official connected with the pet

section had to face a long journey home! One has only to peruse the addresses of exhibitors of pedigree cats in the catalogue to realize that some of them had much farther to travel.

Pedigree cats and kittens which are good enough to be Best in Show at the N.C.C. Ch. Show with its record entries represent some of this country's best, especially as the Show takes place at a time of year when our cats are usually at their peak as regards coat and condition. Owners like to have the gratification of knowing as early as possible when premier honours have been achieved. However, the Secretary, Mrs. Brunton, on behalf of her Committee, said the latter suggestion and other minor points raised would be discussed by the Committee when final arrangements for the next Ch. Show at Olympia in December were made.

All the suggestions were made in a friendly spirit and a pleasant meeting closed with tea and talks.

### Herts & Middlesex

It was a spring like day for the well attended and pleasant Annual General Meeting of the Herts and Middlesex Cat Club on February 25th.

The Hon. Secretary Mrs. Barron, informed members that the Club has well maintained its progress. The Ch. Show in September yielded as much profit as it is necessary to make and the Committee evidently work harmoniously together. The five retiring members of Committee, Mrs. Allen-Smith, Mrs. Towe, Mrs. Walters, Miss Dukes and Miss Statman were all re-elected by postal ballot so members are obviously satisfied with the service they are giving.

Miss Kit Wilson was re-elected President for a term of five years and Mrs. Price was re-elected Chairman. Mrs. Price and Mrs. Barron were chosen to serve as delegates to the Governing Council.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Trevor, who was co-opted to the

Committee for 1958 to give valuable help in revising the rules. These were adopted with one exception; the proposed rise in the entry fee to new members was doubled.

Exhibitors will be pleased to hear it has been possible to engage the R.H.S. Hall, London, for the first Ch. Show of the season in August and it will again be in the capable hands of Mrs. Towe. The previous venue—the Central Hall, Westminster—is well situated but the light leaves much to be desired and many owners are reluctant to exhibit when cats and kittens have to be judged by artificial light which is especially hard on some varieties and on early all eye colours.

### News of Champions

Mrs. Helen Martin of East Grinstead was delighted to receive two cards at Christmas from Copenhagen. One

came from Mrs. Eisenhuth and one from Mrs. Edith Dunvald. They are very pleased with the S.P. Siamese male Whiteoaks Archer which she exported in October. Mrs. Martin's Blue-eyed White British Shorthair Watermill Lady-wite bred by Miss Anne Codrington became a Champion at the S.C.C.C. Show in January and her dam Milady at a previous show.

Mrs. Brice-Webb is so busy with judging engagements that she seldom exhibits but she took the opportunity this season when she was not so engaged, with the consequence that her Cream female Donnachaidh Kirsty by Ch. Redwalls Bath Oliver became a Champion and was Best Longhair Exhibit at the Scottish Cat Club Ch. Show in January. Congratulations!

The Governing Council list of cats who have become Champions during the 1958/59 season will be published shortly in OUR CATS.



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Black, Cream and Blue-Cream Persians

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Kittens from my Blue, Champion Smoke and  
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Kittens noted for type, lovely pale coats, stamina and eye colour

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Excel in Type

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Daughter of Ch. Baralan Boy Blue and Uplands Blue Freda and litter sister to Bayhorne Decima.

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Are good show specimens and breeders. Pets  
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Blue-eyed White

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Queens met at BROCKENHURST, which  
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**LANCY PALLADIN, S.P.** Siamese Stud (Sire : Hillcross Cymbal. Dam : Lancy Ankela)  
Winner of Stud Cat Class K.K. & N. 1958. Siring kittens of excellent type with wonderful eye colour  
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Fee £2. 12. 6 plus carriage. Queens met by arrangement.

Kittens for sale from **WHITEOAKS PHEASANT** (Best S.P. Female Kitten S.C.C. 1956), **WHITEOAKS**  
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Queens : **CH. SABLESILK MOUSE**, Best Burmese Cat  
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Sire of Best Male S.C.C.C. 1953, Best Litter 1950, Best S.H. Kitten Scottish C.C. 1952 and Best Exhibit Edinburgh and E. of Scotland C.C. 1954.

INQUIRIES FOR STUDS and Kittens to :

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### To fanciers overseas . . .

Panel advertisements in our **DIRECTORY OF BREEDERS** (Longhair and Shorthair sections) are not confined to members of the English Fancy. Indeed, we shall be only too pleased to see the Directory develop along truly international lines. The largest bookable space is a double panel (either down or across the page) and all announcements must conform to our usual typeset style. Full details of rates, etc., will be gladly supplied on request to any of our friends overseas. For over ten years our **DIRECTORY OF BREEDERS** has been an economical and efficient medium for fanciers of international repute who have stock to sell and services to offer.



Hugh Smith

Neighbours at the show ! Mrs. R. M. Pocock's litter of Seal Point Siamese sired by Spotlight Melchoir and Mrs. M. I. Haynes' litter of Blue Points sired by Ch. Prestwick Blue Crackers.

FRED W. PEARCE—Australia's leading judge—sends

## News from "Down Under"

[We are very glad to welcome our contributor "back home" after a spell in hospital.—Editor]

HERE we are again, Mr. Editor, full of humble apologies for last month's failure and promises not to let it occur again. My only consolation was listening to Test cricket. I like Trueman and not because his name is Freddie!

\* \* \*

I hear there are a lot of nice litters of kittens about and some very interesting little contests are bound to occur, starting with the Southern Cross All Breeds Club Show this month at Chatswood. I am in receipt of the comprehensive schedule from Secretary Mr. Holden. I have also received a schedule for a kitten show in the Town Hall, Auckland, New Zealand, staged by the Auckland Cat Club in conjunction with the official Siamese Cat Club. News has also reached me that the new Secretary of Auckland Club is Mrs. M. Parkinson, Punga Road, Whenuapai Kumiu, R.D.2. A big cheerio to Mrs. Parkinson from Australian fanciers. An interesting letter from my old friend Mr. Marshall seems to indicate that his garden is now his main hobby.

\* \* \*

Another interesting letter from Miss Tasker, Wellington, New Zealand, reports that she is forming a specialist club for Longhair breeders and is hoping to enlist some Australian and English members. It is a letter full of enthusiasm which greatly appeals to me and I shall certainly do what I can to help for a

start. Unfortunately I do not have any leisure time. I have all particulars of the new venture and will gladly supply them to anyone who may be interested.

\* \* \*

When the *Newsletter* of the New Zealand Governing Council arrives, I always think what a concise and beautifully arranged work it is, leaving nothing to be desired. I can always supply the name and address of the Secretary of any of the eleven clubs listed, if required. I note a very important addition to N.Z. Burmese stock has arrived and is reported to be very typey—a male kit named Merrick Viking, from Miss A. H. Watts, of England. The grandparents are registered in the U.S.A. Very nice going!

\* \* \*

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Downey, who are conducting judges training classes, also to the new judges recently appointed to the panel. I like Miss Menzies description of the lovely new cattery at Glendowie, housing both Burmese and Longhairs. Congratulations also to Jim and Mrs. Sedcole and Hayden Pollock as well. By the way, we have not sighted the young gent so far, so perhaps I missed him during my "siesta." Col. Aberdeen, Dunedin, must be very interested with his Red Point Siamese experiment. I feel that our Mrs. Finch or Mr. Allen, doing the same work, may be interested there. Six N.Z. shows are listed so far; details available on request.

I have the December *Newsletter* from the Siamese Cat Club, Melbourne, and a letter from Mrs. Patterson. Sorry that the appearance of this item is delayed. It seems that the success story of the year belongs to Miss Saker, as awards will show. Colonel Cole has again done very well and it is nice to see him serving again as a Committeeman. He and Mr. Walsh have accepted the two vacancies. Due to pressure of business Mr. and Mrs. Scarff (President) have had to resign their positions. Whilst thanking them for their untiring service, members were very sorry to see them go. I know they did a great service to the cat world generally.

Mrs. Patterson points out the very interesting fact that at the Show, Siamese group, all best cats and kits were males. This is unusual, particularly among the kitten classes. Awards were as follows: *Siamese*—Best Cat—Col. Coles's Siam of Arden; Best Opposite Sex—Miss Saker's Talbingo Tuena; Best Kit—Mrs. Leighton's Inglewood kit; Best Opposite Sex Kit—Mr. and Mrs. Wilson's Valbert Blue Raschild; Best Litter—Mrs. R. Smith's Ming litter of six; Best Neuter—Miss W. Chinn's Merlin; Best Blue Point—Mrs. Lush's Valbert Blue Spec; Best Brood Queen—same breeder's Nunborne Blue Capri. *Longhairs*—Only three awards are listed as follows: Best Cat—Miss Beattie's Chinchilla male Ch Monival Troy; Best Opposite Sex—same breeder's Monival Silver Fern; Best Kit—Mrs. Picken's Cream female Kaspan Carolina.

\* \* \*

A December *Newsletter* from Adelaide announces the retirement of Jim and Lylie Thurmer as President and Secretary of the Club. They find they are unable to give Club business the time it requires and have handed over to Mr. Myers as President and Mr. Don Gebhardt as Secretary. I think Jim and Lylie have been at the helm since the

Club started. They have worked extremely hard and certainly have earned the gratitude of members for the solid foundation of the Club to-day. They were courteous and co-operative to me on all occasions and I am sorry to see them go. Mrs. McAdie and Mrs. Crowe are new Vice-President and Assistant Secretary respectively and Mr. and Mrs. Thurmer will serve on the Committee.

I like Mrs. Host's idea of tubular steel rails to keep the over-keen visitors at shows away from the cages, provided it is at a convenient height for owners to duck under when it is necessary to attend to the exhibits. The R.H.A. use a wire netting grille.

\* \* \*

At the annual meeting of the Brisbane Club in December, I understand some executive positions changed hands. But\* as I have still no official news I cannot say definitely, except that Mrs. Henry is again Secretary, vice Mr. Arch Gleed, who resigned. He will now be able to devote more time to his nice Black Persian stock, but don't use too much Brylcreem on show day, Arch! There is no mention yet of a show date for their Ch. Show, which is generally held about June. As it is the very busy centenary year, news should be going out soon.

\* \* \*

Whilst out of circulation I heard that Mr. and Mrs. Cawley and Miss Norma have left us and are going to make their home in Brisbane. This will be Brisbane's gain and I hope Mr. C. will enjoy better health through the move. I was very interested to read a newspaper cutting which Mrs. Pearce brought in about the airlift history made by Riza Cattery. About 36 air-minded pussies went with Norma as her bodyguard and now her top priority male has applied for his pilot's licence. I quote: "Why should

they have to fly the queens up here to me when I can go on a general air 'walkabout' and see them all." I was very sorry indeed to receive a letter from my Brisbane scribe Miss Harrison to say she had resigned as Club Publicity Officer at Christmas. I hope that she will have time at some future date to resume these duties, which she discharged so efficiently.

\* \* \*

As I have not heard from Mrs. Helsham, I presume she is now on her way to England. We know you will all like her, as we do. President of one of our clubs, a leading Siamese breeder and an up-and-coming judge, Mrs. Helsham is well qualified to tell you of our feline progress and we look forward to a talk she will be invited to give us on her return.

\* \* \*

Sydney cat world was shocked to learn that our highly esteemed member Mrs. Mac Jones had died suddenly at her home in Lakemba. To her husband and family we send sincere sympathy in their tragic loss. An active member, breeder and exhibitor of Longhairs for many years, Mrs. Jones was held in the highest esteem by all who knew her. It was grand to know how those solid pals Mr. and Mrs. Bill Taylor, Mrs. Mason and Mrs. Favelle rallied round to find homes for the 36 cats and kittens. Mrs. Taylor has taken the White male Champion Shalimar Bobby Dazzler, so maybe his show career will continue.

\* \* \*

My next very pleasant duty, Mr. Editor, is to thank you for the copy of "Our Cats Picture Book." It arrived at a period when I had little else to do but read and heartily enjoy it. Could anyone imagine a picture more likely to tug at the heartstrings than the one on the cover, which offers such a contrast

with its warm friendliness to the poor little mite, all in mourning and so obviously in need of a friend, who appears first inside the book. The book is a lovely treasure chest from cover to cover which will obviously become popular all over the cat world. Indeed, it should be welcomed by all animal lovers and is ideal as a gift book. It gave me some happy hours and I've been busy ever since telling all my friends about it. Congratulations, Mr. Editor, on a fine job. The foreword by the Dowager Lady Aberconway is excellent and Sidney Denham's supporting text I found most entertaining reading. I have also to thank you for the airmailed copy of the Special Greetings Number (December) of the Magazine. This is a grand effort and making happy strides each year. It is much enjoyed by readers this side of the world.

MY SIN

...a most provocative perfume!



# MY SIN

PURSE-SIZE PERFUME DESIGNED BY CARTIER \$3;  
TOILET WATER \$2 UP PLUS TAX

An American subscriber kindly clipped this advertisement from her newspaper and sent it along with the comment: "I'm sure your readers will be amused, as I was." We agree and attach our acknowledgments and congratulations to the producers.

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

The rate for prepaid advertisements under this heading is 3d. per word per insertion (minimum 12 words) and instructions must be received by *not later than the 1st day of the month of issue*. Please write "copy" clearly and post with appropriate remittance to **OUR CATS MAGAZINE**, 4 Carlton Mansions, Clapham Road, London, S.W.9. Use of Box No. costs 1s. extra.

### At Stud

**SIAMESE. CLONROSS KYM, S.P.** at stud, excellent pedigree, disposition and type. Specialists in the care of Siamese.—Hopkins, Orchard End, Clevedon 3503.

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**MARY'S BOARDING CATTERY** provides all a cat can want, with the personal care of Miss Mary Stuart Hodgkinson and Mrs. Hodgkinson, Grimspound, Oxshott Road, Leatherhead, Surrey (Tel.: Leatherhead 2067). Inspection invited without appointment.

### Appeals

**LADY EVICTED** from home (through no fault of her own) urgently needs **UNFURNISHED ACCOMMODATION** where she can have her cats and regain health. London or outskirts preferred. Write Box 67, **Our Cats Magazine**, 4 Carlton Mansions, Clapham Road, London, S.W.9.

### Insurance

**INSURE YOUR CAT!** Full cover includes death from any cause. Veterinary expenses, loss by theft, etc. Reasonable premiums. Write for Free Brochure.—**CANINE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION LTD.**, 90 Gracechurch Street, London, E.C.3; 58 Rankin Drive, Edinburgh 9. (Established over a quarter of a century).

### Books

**BOOKS ON CATS** for Sale and Wanted. Second-hand and out of print Cat Books and Magazines.—**Albion Bookshop**, Broadstairs, Kent.

**CATS BETWEEN COVERS**, by Sidney Denham, the only complete guide to books about cats, with an introduction by Sir Compton Mackenzie, 7s. (U.S.A. \$1) post free from H. Denham, 37 Canonbury Square, London, N.1.

**CAT BOOKS FOR CAT LOVERS.** Lists free. **Little Bookshop**, Farnham Common, Bucks.

### Miscellaneous

**EXMARID Brand Lotion** will free your cats from unsightly skin troubles. Obtainable from Pet Stores and Chemists price 3s. 6d., or direct from Exrid Limited, 44 Whitehorse Street, Baldock, Herts. 6d. post paid.

**BACK NUMBERS.** **OUR CATS** for December 1951 to February 1959 complete in **OUR CATS Binders** for sale. Offers please write **Cullum**, 50 Glenbuck Court, Surbiton.

**PEDIGREE FORMS**, good quality, provision for five generations. 2s. 6d. per dozen, post free from **OUR CATS**, 4 Carlton Mansions, Clapham Road, London, S.W.9.

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**WHO WANTS A CATNIP MOUSE?** The herb inside this cloth mouse creates sheer ecstasy and promotes healthy exercise. Send 1s. 6d. (P.O. or stamps) to **OUR CATS Magazine**, 4 Carlton Mansions, Clapham Road, London, S.W.9.

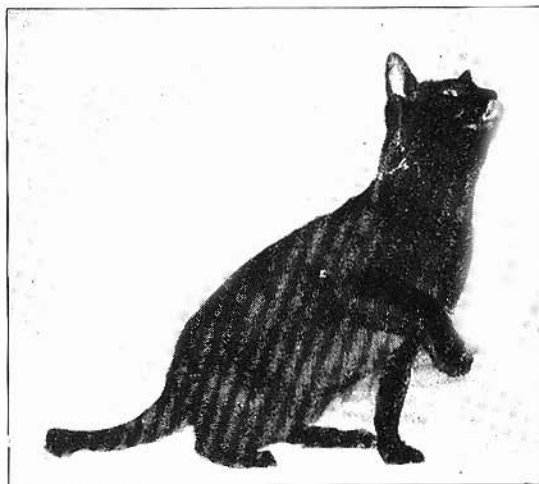
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**PEDIGREE S.P. SIAMESE Kittens**, house-trained, 3 gns. female, 4 gns. male.—**Mrs. Barker**, Garriss Lodge, Aiton, Skipton.

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**PREMIER PEGASUS**

**MRS. M. GILES** of Birch House Staplehay, Taunton, Somerset, owner-breeder of the Dewpoint Burmese, writes:—

*"I think you may be interested to see the enclosed photograph of my well-known Burmese cat, Premier Pegasus. Pegasus, whom I bred and own, is the first Burmese Neuter*

*to gain his full Premier title in this country.*

*"About four weeks before the photograph was taken he was run over and sustained a fractured jaw-bone and leg, concussion and severe bruising. For seven days, Kit-zyme was the only thing I could get him to take and I am positive that his wonderful recovery, his continued Show successes and his sparkling condition are due to these marvellous tablets.*

*"I have used Kit-zyme for nearly seven years now and I certainly would not be without it. All my cats keep in excellent condition and whenever Pegasus is shown, the Judge always comments on his beautiful condition and his all-brown coat shining like a polished chestnut."*

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**It is a natural Tonic and Conditioner—NOT a purgative**

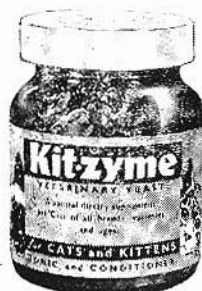
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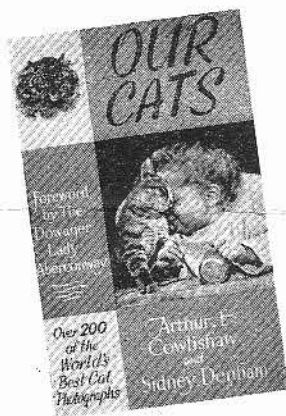
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Ref. No. 190

Cat owners should keep Zemol handy. Zemol, in Ointment or Powder form, is an effective remedy for many skin troubles and minor wounds. Booklets **FREE** on application to the makers of Kit-zyme.



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## **OUR CATS PICTURE BOOK**

**A beautifully produced pictorial symposium**

By Arthur E. Cowlshaw and Sidney Denham,  
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Here is a book designed to bring lasting pleasure to cat lovers everywhere. It is the perfect gift book—amusing, entertaining, informative and instructive—and quite unique in its presentation. The photographs have been carefully selected from ten years' issues of **OUR CATS**, the most

widely-read magazine of the cat world. Here are beautiful pictures and funny pictures; pictures of cats with famous people (including Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, Princess Margaret, Sir Winston Churchill, Sir Compton Mackenzie, James Mason, etc.); cats with other animals; pictures of playful kittens and aristocratic champions of many varieties; a wonderful cavalcade of pictures for everyone to enjoy as they turn over the pages.

The sections—some linked with informative and entertaining text by Sidney Denham, journalist and cat lover—include *Cats Through the Ages*, *Cats and People*, *Playing With a Cat*, the *Hogarth of Cats* (Louis Wain), *Cats and Smiles*, *Cats and Strange Friends*, *Cats and the Artist*, *Cats as Mothers*, *Cats in the Fancy*.

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"The Book is a lovely treasure chest from cover to cover which will obviously be popular all over the cat world. Congratulations on a fine job."—*Fred W. Pearce, doyen judge of the Australian Fancy.*

"Your delightful Picture Book has just reached me, making my 57th book on cats. This one is my favourite—the text and pictures are wonderful."—*From a South African cat lover.*

"Congratulations on a delightful and beautiful publication . . . it gives one so much pleasure to look at it time and again. I hope it won't be the only book you produce."—*From an Australian fancier.*

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"For cat owners, this book is a MUST. It will cheer you to pick it up at any moment—for five minutes or for hours. It is suitable for all ages, including children."—*From "Siamese News," the journal of the Siamese Cat Club.*

"The arrival of the Book has been the big occasion of the year for us. We are sending you an order for ten copies so that our friends may also enjoy it as much as we have done."—*From a Californian cat lover.*

**We could fill several sheets with extracts of this kind !**

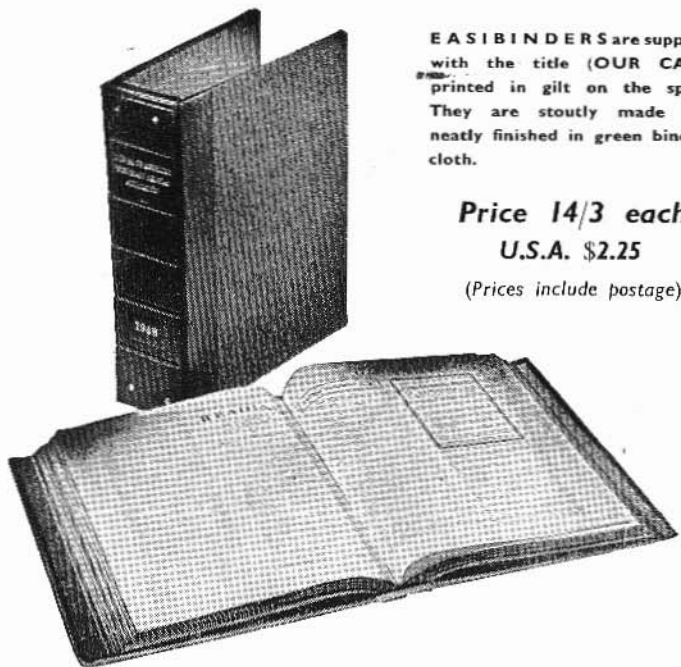


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